

# KONFLIKT IN THE KINO

Issue 3

When pictures and sound collide there are fatalities

## When Blue Waters turn Red! Shark Movies, on the Beach!

You don't need to be a Marine biologist to figure out why all of a sudden there was an influx of shark movies in the Seventies. In the pre-Spielberg 1975 box office blockbuster "Jaws" era, the sharks that appeared in film didn't really pose too much of a threat....

Before JAWS, most films would feature out finned friends as mindless zombies, in films like Roger Corman's "She Gods of Shark Reef", or "Beneath the 12-Mile Reef" (with Robert Wagner). They served more as a backdrop to the dangers of the sea, while the stories themselves focused in perhaps on a "Shark Hunter" or "Fisherman" and the struggle he had with various ladies, etc. The waters started to warm up a wee bit if you were to look at the low-grade "Shark" starring Burt Reynolds (Director Samuel Fuller), but even that had too much espionage and the spotlight was on Burt, and not the sharks...

Of course this all changed with the box office success of JAWS, directed by Steven Spielberg. Based on Peter Benchley's novel, and released riding a wave of Irwin Allen disaster films at the box office, JAWS certainly didn't get water logged at the box office — audiences loved the flick. John Williams did the "dun-dun-dun-dun" theme/soundtrack, which set the pace and feel of the flick. All of a sudden, people were sticking their feet in lakes, ponds, oceans and wondering what the hell might lurk in it. Little kids could scare their friends with the mere threat of "Jaws" while at the lake, or thanks to some great mass marketing, go home and play the game! The JAWS game was a favorite of mine as a kid. You pull junk out of the shark's "jaws" with a hook and when you least expect it, his jaws would snap closed with plastic "garbage" falling into his belly, and you would lose. Damn, that was fun!

If others were noticing that they could sell lots of garbage to the unsuspecting public thanks to JAWS, indie filmmakers changed the gears from their tired "monster" movies to shark flicks. Too cheap to build a mechanical shark? That's what stock footage is for! And once SHARK films got exhausted, there were plenty of other critters in the sea to create some real terror, or better yet, fill the drive-in screens for a week or two.

Now the critters of the sea would come to us, and they were pissed! A telling statistic is that pigs kill more people every year compared to humans killed by sharks. But sharks have big teeth that could rip through someone like a Ginsu knife through a pop can! This is much



more menacing than the cute curly tailed pink ball of love. (Besides, Hollywood wouldn't want all the petting zoos of North America to go belly up, would they?).

Here's some fine shark fare you should check out, and a couple of other "friends of the sea" that might be worth checking out too. Billy Bass, watch out!!!

### TINTORERA (Mexico/UK, 1977)

Director: Rene Cardona Jr.

Throw these ingredients into a minnow pail and see what happens: Sharks, an island resort, shark hunters sleeping with the same woman in a threesome type relationship, and stock footage of sharks and PRESTO! You've got TINTORERA! Remember, this was the 70's so there was this "sexual awakening" going on. So why not make a shark movie that caters to the crowd looking for "Emmanuelle", and throw in a menacing shark for the "Jaws" crowd. PRESTO! It's "TINTORERA"! The Mexican version of "Tintorera" runs about 20 minutes longer, compared to the North American theatrical version. TINTORERA was also

released as a SUPER 8 digest, condensed to a 30-minute version. PRICILLA BARNES of "Threes Company" is also - briefly - in the film.

### DEEP JAWS (1976)

Director: Perry Dell

A low-grade movie studio is about to go belly up when they think of making a movie combining "Deep Throat" and "Jaws", thus coming up with the title "Deep Jaws". There's not even stock footage to save this TERRIBLE movie. The sharks instead are "mermaids", and there are a lot of really, really, really bad jokes! Most of the time people just yammer on about the film they want to make. It scores HIGH END on the unwatchable meter, even for me.

### THE JAWS MOVIES (various)

Director: Various

In my books, the first JAWS movie was saved by its editor, Verna Fields (who won an Academy Award for her editing). JAWS 2 was

*continued on page 2*

# Skratchez from the Editor

Damn! I feel like Ron Popeil! I've made a discovery.

Lately a lot of friends have shown me photos of their travels around this glorious globe of ours and I discovered something. More and more, people who take holiday snaps are taking photos of a meal, or what they're eating.

When looking at my friend Skip's photos of his last film tour, there were shots in his e-photo album of plates of food and how much it cost. Another friend showed me a shot of some chicken breasts on the BBQ during his travels near Ocean City. "Doesn't that look good?" he asked proudly. Not everyone who has shown me photos has snapped a photo of their precious meals, but people are starting to do it enough that I've coined a term for it. I'm going to call this "urge to photograph what you are eating", MEALAPHOTOGRAPHIA.

Some of us have casual Mealaphotographia. For instance, snapping a Polaroid of a wedding or birthday cake can be seasonal Mealaphotographia. You don't even have mild mealaphotographia if it's a medium shot (a cousin standing by a birthday cake). This is just peer pressure by friends and relatives to snap a photo of the persons involved in an event, on a special day.

You may think I've lost it, but pay attention the next time someone shows you photos. If they have the habit of photographing that "meal to remember", they are suffering from mealaphotographia. Not to worry. As Stephe Perry pointed out, numerous artists have made a fine living of painting fruit bowls who have had this disease too. You're not alone.

I gotta thank all those who helped pull this edition together so quickly. Stephe and Jennifer, and Dave Faris for his poster work.....I want to nominate them for YTV achievement awards!

And folks, I gotta tell you. You WON'T want to miss the August 22nd screening of SURF II. It's the funniest cult sleeper of the 80's and we'll be providing the audience with squirt guns so you can almost feel the waves. And their will be a "soda guzzling contest" where you can win some goofball prizes. Sign up for our mailing list for more details, and don't miss out on the fun!

## More Schlocky Shark Cinema

entertaining for what it was. JAWS 3-D was good because, well.. it was in 3-D, but the script was far off kilter from the original JAWS series. JAWS 4: THE REVENGE proves that sharks have psychic powers, and they connect with characters from the first flick with struggling careers and battle it out. I remember dreaming about a JAWS 5, then I found it with...

### JAWS 5: CRUEL JAWS (1995)

Director: William Snyder (a.k.a., Bruno Mattei)  
The film is called "Cruel Jaws", but the Malaysian VCD's happily pumped this as a new sequel. I sang the praises of this in the first issue of KITK and it still hasn't wavered. Shot in the US for Italian television, you could scream "Mamma Mia!" after watching the film, which rips off "Jaws" in a severe way. The shark itself looks like they picked it up from the Universal props department after JAWS 4. It has to be one of the best trash shark movies out of the 90's, by the director of the murdering nuns epic, THE OTHER HELL.

### THE GREAT SHARK (ITALY, 1980)

Director: Enzo G. Castellari  
After its initial release, UNIVERSAL (maker of JAWS) sued the American distributor, FILM VENTURES, saying that this Italian shark flick was a little "too similar" to JAWS. Universal won, and after about a week, THE GREAT SHARK was on the beach. Not to fear, however: it popped up in other countries around the world under various names such as "Great White" and "The Last Shark" to really confuse people. James Franciscus and Vic Morrow pop up in this trash. Just like JAWS 5, there's lots of windsurfing shots, and a competition. This

has been a favourite of trash video collectors around the globe.

### THE JAWS OF DEATH (1976/77)

Director: William Grefe

Grefe had this script on the backburner for the longest time and got the money for it after JAWS raked in the cash. Richard Jaeckel (BORN INNOCENT) primarily has sharks for friends. He talks to them through a hole in the floor of his flat, but that tramp Karen who does the water ballets at the tacky Florida bar makes Jaeckel (as Sonny) regret renting out his finned friends. Shot in Florida, it provided a different take on the shark story for moviegoers. It did well in Europe (they say!) and a super-8 version came out in the 70's for home consumption (pre-video). It also has Luke Halpin from the TV series FLIPPER!

### DEEP BLUE SEA (1999)

Director: Renny Harlin

I'm sure you can read about this flick in other places. But hey, it features a plot that mixes genetically engineered sharks (who might hold the cure for Alzheimer's), LL Cool J as a chef with a foul-mouthed parrot, and Aussie favourite (and supposed Bill Clinton conquest) Saffron Burrows (HOTEL DE LOVE). If you're thinking that it sounds like I haven't seen it, well I have, but I watched it in Russian! One night I was with my friends Igor and Katja in St. Petersburg and I encouraged them to buy a copy of this. We drank and watched this, dubbed in Russian. You haven't lived till you heard LL COOL J in Russian! Anyhow, I think it was entertaining! Done by Finn-born Renny Harlin, who did the trashy "cold war paranoia" epic, BORN AMERICAN (1985).



## KONFLIKT IN THE KINO

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"Konflikt in the Kino" is a publication in conjunction with the CONFLICT ARCHIVES screenings.



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To be added to the CONFLICT ARCHIVES e-mail list, or to comment/argue on KITK, the film screenings, coffee worship, Swarm records, and a place to ship your photos of "Bambipark" in Yugoslavia, please contact us at:

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JABBERJAW STYLE THANX TO: Stephe Perry (I'm nominating him for a YTV Achievement Award), Jennifer Goldsmith, Raybies, Simon Harvey, Colin Geddes, Owen Roberts, Dina @ the Royal, Tim "I paid \$50 for the RUSHMORE dvd" Smy, Hannele Kivilahti, Pekka Malinen, and those others that support junk cinema. Tapioca Tundra, what's that?

This issue is dedicated to Linda Lovelace, aka Linda Boorman.



# junk

## ON THE LINE (2001)

Starring: Lance Bass, Joey Fatone

Director: Eric Bross

People really groaned at the mere sight of a film with the guys from N'Sync! Lance Bass, act? Joey Fatone? But oddly enough, it's actually pretty funny, and not much worse than a lot of the TERRIBLE films released last year. Kevin (Bass) just can't seem to get up the nerve and go for anything, or as his struggling musician friend Rod says "You can't seal the deal!", so after Bass bumps into a cute girl on the L train in Chicago (Emmanuelle Chriqui), he decides to "go for it" and look for her, since he (as Fatone sings) "Didn't get the digits". It's a cute romantic comedy, in a very John Hughes kind of way. The big question you're asking is, "Can Lance Bass and Joey Fatone of N'Sync sing?"... THEY'RE IN A BLOODY BOY BAND! THEY ACT ALL THE TIME! Also has Dave Foley (KIDS IN THE HALL), Al Green (who plays live) and Richie Sambora!



## TAN BUENO EL GIRO COMO EL COLORADO (Mexico, 1957)

Starring: Luis Aguilar, Demetrio Gonzales, Flor Silvestre,

Rosa Castilla

Director: Jaime Salvador

Throw your sombrero into the air to the fine folks at VCI for coming out with a fine line of Mexican flicks, now on DVD and looking great! "Tan Bueno" (One's The Same as the Other) tells the tale of two girls who, while at an "Orphanage for Girls", proclaim their love for each other's brother. The problem is Carmen and Alicia's brothers are feuding charros! Will the girls be able to win over their hearts for the upcoming rodeo? This western wasn't filmed with a lot of pesos for sure, but it's lots of fun, and is jammed full of good songs (which are chaptered on the DVD). The transfer to DVD is a little soft, but the print is a knockout, considering this was from 1957. Also on the DVD are trailers for other great Mexican flicks and a poster gallery. Salvador directed TONS of Mexican films, and some films in Cuba. Check out [www.mexdvd.com](http://www.mexdvd.com) for other very cool titles on VHS and DVD. Shot in glorious MEXI-SCOPE too, whatever that is!



## INGA (Sweden, 1967)

Starring: Marie Liljedahl, Monica Strömmerstedt, Thomas Ungewitter.

Director: Joe Sarno

NEVER would I believe that Joe Sarno movies would be released on DVD, or really be praised! INGA was a huge deal back in the day, considered controversial, and catered to the art house crowd, and perverts who expected to see sex in foreign fare. Now thanks to DVD, INGA has returned. Greta Johansson (Strömmerstedt) is dancing to big beat music at a party when she tells her younger lover she wants to go home. It seems her sister has died and her niece INGA is coming to live with her. Greta also has to deal with financial difficulties and her dead husband's friend Einar, who's putting the moves on her. But perhaps INGA might be interested in the stuffy Einar, so she can spend more time with her loser 22 year old boyfriend? INGA is well done, beautifully shot, and is VERY erotic, but done with class. The DVD comes with both the dubbed version and the Swedish version with English subtitles. There's an audio commentary by Sarno, who doesn't remember a lot but new producer Sam Sherman pulls some interesting stories out of him. Let's not forget Marie Liljedahl, who I gotta say, is absolutely stunning. The Swedish title of this film is "Jag - en oskuld" which means "I, a Virgin"! All and all, good!



## KILLER KNOCKOUTS VOL. 2

Gen-Sub Records

Here's a comp CD from Toronto, but is it a knockout? Are we talking a Mike Tyson knockout or Lennox Lewis KO? :) If you have a taste for rock driven pop, this might knock you out! DARRYL HURS and MARKER rock out within the ring with solid pop. But the track by dry ASHA had me

pinning to listen to the ICELANDIC CHOIR album I got for 50 cents. Anyhow, it didn't "knock me out" per say, but it would make nice background pop for the "alterna-Queen-Street Crowd".

## SCARE TACTIC - S/T

Solomon Method Records

A fair amount of Toronto HC bands seem to be influenced by speed, and SCARE TACTIC are no exception. Side A of this 7" pumps fast and furious with tracks like "Our Voice, Pro Choice" and "Smile Dammit". SIDE B almost goes into the "start and stop" type of punk which I enjoy a lot, but they stick shift back into gear. And again, they have the best song to come out of Toronto this year with "My Dad met Black Sabbath and didnt know who they are". Nice!



## ULTRA BRA - "SINÄ PÄIVÄNÄ KUN SYNNYIN"

Pyramid

If you were to come to my house after I found out from friends that ULTRA BRA broke up, you might have actually seen a tear in my eye! Luckily I got this for Christmas to temporarily cheer me up. SINÄ PÄIVÄNÄ KUN SYNNYIN is a 2 CD collection of one of the best bands to come out of the 90's and I'd say, in the world! CD 1 runs like a "best of" including big hits like "sinä lähdit pois" and "Hauki" (which means "pike" in Finnish). CD 2 contained some unreleased tracks and some which only appeared on CD singles. "Laulu Marsalkka Mannerheimistä" is good and the weird heavy metal-ish version of "nainen, joka elää vapaaherran elämää". I'm still sad one my favorite bands from Finland broke up, but at least listening to this will let me grieve and groove a bit longer. (Mine was autographed too by UB "laulu" Arto Talme, kiitos Pekka Malinen!)



## ABCD: AMERICAN BORN CONFUSED DESI (1999)

Starring: Madhur Jaffrey, Faran Tahir, Sheetal Sheth.

Director: Krutin Patel.

After the sure-fire disappointment of the Indian-American release of "American Desi" (Which I liked some of, or the basic idea, or the amateurishness of some of it), all eyes were on ABCD. But ABCD played and left Canada in about the same amount of time it would take me to re-heat a samosa from SAK'S VARIETY. ABCD follows a widow (Jaffrey, who is popular for her Indian cookbooks) in pursuit of her children's best interest. She would like to see her daughter Nina (Sheth) marry, but she's too busy sleeping with white-trash boys in preppy clothing. Perhaps Raj (Tahir) might finally marry his Indian fiancée (who belly dances), but he seems to be falling for the "woman at the office". ABCD deals with the widow, her children and their struggle in dealing with the trials and tribulations we face in North American society, and each individual's pursuit of happiness which

## THE DOLPH MOVIE REVIEW

### SWEEPERS (1999)

Starring: Dolph Lundgren, Bruce Payne, Claire Stansfield

Director: Keoni Waxman

After the death of his son (to a land mine), former landmine expert Christian Erickson (Dolph!) is getting drunk in Angola and fist fighting locals for money. Michelle Flynn (Stansfield) seeks out Christian in between booze binges to have him find a new type of landmine (she designed) which is being pirated and buried in Christian's backyard. Can he undetonate the landmines in Angola and find out who's re-building these deadly devices? It may be low budget, and sometimes sloppy, but this is actually a pretty good film. Sometimes there's a fair amount of focus on Dolph's boozing, and a tacky flashback of his kid being blown to bits by a landmine, but it's all comes together, ready for home video! The butterfly-design landmine looks like one of those campfire toasters.



one could say at best, is dicey. If you're expecting this to be singing and dancing, this isn't the movie. Considering this film was done with a low budget, and so obviously shot with 16mm, it's not too bad. The script is well written and there's decent performances by most. The film flows from A to B to C to D, no pun intended. Worth checking out.

#### HI-FI - "Eanommhah"

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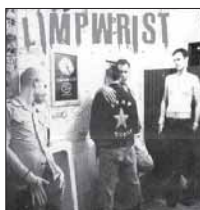
Some Russian pop can be wretched, but HI-FI have always been surprisingly good in my books, with a kind of UPPITY "Ace of Base" kind of sound. It's really well crafted pop. Their "Stars" collection has taken up oodles of time in my CD player, so I was really looking forward to new product HI-FI, and after seeing that in late 2001, there was a new album. "Eanommhah" (translation: "Remember") starts up with the VERY Russian disco sounding "Tak nerko", then the high energy keeps up with the next 3 tracks. Mid way, they give us some dull ballads, but it moves back into high energy disco. This CD isn't as strong as previous efforts, but still has enough interesting tracks to make the fan of "High Energy Russian Pop" (like me), happy. "Bombeh" sounds like the kind of track you would hear in some kind of Russian toy shop filled with lots of wooden soldiers. Npoknrtbth@R niogrio matephan@



#### LIMP WRIST - S/T LP

Lengua Armada Records

The first time I met Martin Sorrondeguy from LIMP WRIST was at a gig they did in Buffalo. I asked him if they, LIMP WRIST, sounded like the very, very lame PANSY DIVISION. He told me that they didn't, but I was still skeptical...till I saw them live and was blown away! For those a little slow on the uptake, LIMP WRIST is a Gay, Straight-Edge band from the United States, with its members spread out from East to West. The energy from their live shows and previous demo and 7" translates yet again on this fine slab of K-Y free vinyl. From the perennial favorite "I love Hardcore Boys" to my personal fave, "Limp Wrist vs Dr. Laura", that you can rock out, even with a LIMP WRIST! The humour shines through in a lot of this, but the message is clear for those who look hard enough. Martin likes pancakes and was also in the punk fav, LOS CRUDOS.



#### THE HOLES (France, 1973)

Starring: Philippe Noiret, Charles Denner, and Gerard Depardieu.

Director: Pierre Tchernia

After a nice bout of the flu and watching too many talk shows during the day, I went to my DVD collection to look at what I might have bought and not checked out in the last couple of months and found this odd flick on the stack. Besides, MAURY was showing "Teen Paternity Tests" anyhow. A bookshop owner goes in search of his daughter after she and various artifacts and people go missing in Paris. What he uncovers is a secret society (fed up with all the "progress and rebuilding" in Paris) living in the underground of the city. But with the obvious clash of the two cultures (above and below ground), the situations prevail. Depardieu is billed now on the DVD as the star, but like most "re-released for home video" crap, his part is small as a mailman. The dubbing is pretty bad, but the film is an interesting concept and would make a great double bill one evening with TIMES SQUARE. The print is a little washy, but for the price, it's fine by me. It should be re-released in a subtitled version. The DVD (which you can find at places like Amazon.com for dirt cheap) also has some movie trivia, and a CASPER cartoon. It kept me entertained for the afternoon, even if it meant missing Teen Paternity Tests. That might not be a bad thing.

#### I WANT IT LIKE CANDY

As a child, if I didn't get what I wanted, I'd hold my breath till I'd pass out! Well, me turning purple is not a pretty site. So, here's my top 10 wants list. I'll trade for copies if I can get my hands on any of the following.

- 1) SHOULD A SCHOOLGIRL TELL? (feature) (1977)
- 2) ADVENTURES OF TIMOTHY PILGRIM (TVO, 70's, ENTIRE SERIES ONLY!)
- 3) "Livet är en schlager" (feature) (Sweden, 2000) (Dir: Suzanne Biehr)
- 4) DIALING FOR DOLLARS / BOWLING FOR DOLLARS episodes (WKWB Buffalo, NY. 1976-79)
- 5) Vinyl: Any Melodia pressings of the Russian band "Kino"
- 6) "KEEP IT IN THE FAMILY" (feature) (Canada, 1973) (Director: Larry Kent) (CIC VIDEO PRE-RECORD ONLY!)
- 7) LIPA (solo cd from Poland)
- 8) VILLA ALEGRE (PBS 70's) (ANY episodes)
- 9) THE NEEDLE (feature) (Russia) (Starring Viktor Tsoy)
- 10) CBS 6-MONTH 9/11 DOCUMENTARY (VCD copy preferred!)

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## PAPER TIGER 2

Robin Shou and Donnie Yen in a tickle death match